

Message Text

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15/41

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 PM-07 COME-00 OMB-01 DODE-00

NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03

TRSE-00 AID-20 H-03 /099 R

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DRAFTED BY ISA/NESA:LT.COL. R HOLT:PM

APPROVED BY NEA/EGY:MSTERNER

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R 221338Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057546

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 3 LINE 2)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP, EG

SUBJECT: SUEZ CANAL SALVAGE OPERATION

REF: CAIRO 1207

1. YOU MAY RESPOND TO MASHOUR'S INQUIRY ABOUT MURPHY
PACIFIC ALONG FOLLOWING LINES.

2. (C) MURPHY PACIFIC (AND ITS PREDECESSOR MERRIT
CHAPMAN AND SCOTT CORPORATION) HAS BEEN IN THE SALVAGE
BUSINESS FOR OVER 100 YEARS. FIRM HAS ACCOMPLISHED
NUMEROUS SALVAGE TASKS FOR THE US NAVY, AS WELL AS
COMMERCIAL SALVAGE OF ALL TYPES. WHILE MURPHY PACIFIC
HAS NEVER OPERATED THE NAVY LIFT PER SE, FIRM HAS IN ITS
EMPLOY RETIRED US NAVY PERSONNEL WHO DID OPERATE THE CRAFT
WHEN THEY WERE ACTIVE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. THE US NAVY HAS
CONFIDENCE IN THE COMPANY'S ABILITY TO OPERATE THE CRAFT.

3. (C) AS REGARDS THE US NAVY ASSUMING OPERATION OF THE
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LIFT CRAFT IN COOPERATION WITH MURPHY PACIFIC SALVAGE

COMPANY, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS WILL BE NECESSARY IN VIEW
OF OUR CONFIDENCE MURPHY PACIFIC CAN DO JOB. HOWEVER,
US NAVY WOULD DESIRE TO OBSERVE THE OPERATION IN CONNECTION
WITH PROTECTION AND PROPER USE OF ITS PROPERTY. KISSINGER

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NNN

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